

10/069313

JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 13 FEB 2002

"Express Mail" number ET980487748US
 Date of Deposit February 13, 2002
 I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
 Bonnie S. Sheridan

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Armitage et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Serial No.: Not Assigned

Examiner: Not Assigned

Filed: Herewith

Docket No.: 1386/5

For: SAMPLING SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
 BOX PCT
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Kindly amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please insert the paragraph heading on page 18 of the Annex to PCT/IPEA/409, before claim 1, as follows:

a1

-- What is claimed is: --.

Please amend claims 4, 6, 8, 9, 11-14, 16, 17, 19-22, 26, 28, 30, and 31 as presented on pages 18-23 of the Annex to PCT/IPEA/409 as follows:

a2

4. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein print is on the reverse of said base sheet.

a3

6. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the base sheet is paper.

a4

8. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the cover sheet is a clear polypropylene film.

9. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the backing sheet is a release paper.

a5

11. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 10 wherein the device is a sample collection device for collecting and storing a biological sample for subsequent analysis, comprising tamper-evident storage means for storing said sample, said storage means comprising:

a base sheet arranged so that the biological sample may be positioned thereon;

a cover sheet hingedly secured to said base sheet, said cover sheet being adapted for substantially irreversible adhesive securement to said base sheet over at least a substantial portion of their facing surfaces; and